What is claimed is:

1. A stabilized pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of dyslipidemia, comprising, as an active component, at least one ring-opened 7-substituted-3,5-dihydroxyheptanoic acid or ring-opened 7-substituted-3,5-dihydroxyheptenoic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid salt thereof, and a stabilizing effective amount of at least one amido-group containing polymeric compound or at least one amino-group containing polymeric compound, or combination thereof; wherein said stabilized pharmaceutical composition does not contain a stabilizing effective amount of another stabilizer or a combination of other stabilizers.

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the at least one amido-group containing polymeric compound or at least one amino-group containing polymeric compound, or combination thereof, comprises between about 10 and about 99 percent by weight of the composition.

3. The composition of claim 2 wherein the at least one amido-group containing polymeric compound or at least one amino-group containing polymeric compound, or combination thereof, comprises between about 30 and about 80 percent by weight of the composition.

4. The composition of claim 1 wherein the active component comprises between about 0.05 and about 70 percent by weight of the composition.

5. The composition of claim 4 wherein the active component comprises between about 1 and about 60 percent by weight of the composition.

6. The composition of claim 1 wherein the active component is a pharmaceutically acceptable acid salt of pravastatin.

7. The composition of claim 6 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable acid salt is pravastatin sodium.

8. The composition of claim 1 wherein the active component is a pharmaceutically acceptable acid salt of atorvastatin.

9. The composition of claim 8 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable acid salt is atorvastatin calcium.

10. The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition is in the form of a solid.

11. The composition of claim 10 wherein the composition is in the form of a tablet.

12. The composition of claim 11 wherein the tablet contains a lubricant.

13. The composition of claim 12 wherein the lubricant is selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, sodium stearyl fumarate, polyethylene glycol, stearic acid, hydrogenated vegetable oil and talc.

14. The composition of claim 10 wherein the composition is in the form of granules.

15. The composition of claim 14 wherein the granules are constituents of a dispersion.

16. The composition of claim 10 wherein the composition is in the form of a suspension.

17. The composition of claim 10 wherein the composition is in the form of a capsule.

18. The composition of claim 10 wherein the composition is in the form of a cachet.

19. The composition of claim 1 wherein the amido group in the amido-group containing polymeric compound or the amino group in the amino-group containing

polymeric compound is present either in a pendant group attached to the backbone of the polymeric compound or as a component of the backbone of the polymeric compound.

20. The composition of claim 19 wherein the amido-group containing polymeric compound is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone, copolymers of vinylpyrrolidone and vinyl acetate, and polynoxylin.

21. The composition of claim 1, wherein the amido-group containing polymeric compound or amino-group containing polymeric compound, or combination thereof, imparts a pH of not more than about 10 to an aqueous dispersion of said composition.

22. The composition of claim 21, wherein the amido-group containing polymeric compound or amino-group containing polymeric compound, or combination thereof, imparts a pH of not more than about 8 to an aqueous dispersion of said composition.

23. The composition of claim 19, wherein the amino-group containing polymeric compound is a quaternary ammonium group-containing polymeric compound.

24. The composition of claim 23, wherein the quaternary ammonium group-containing polymeric compound is cholestyramine.

25. The composition of claim 21 wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted-3,5-dihydroxyheptanoic acid or ring-opened 7-substituted-3,5-dihydroxyheptenoic acid, or pharmaceutically acceptable acid salt thereof, is a HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor medicament that is sensitive to a low pH environment.

26. A stabilized pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of dyslipidemia comprising, in admixture,

(a) about 0.05% to about 70% by weight of a ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxyheptanoic acid or ring-opened 7-substituted-3,5-

dihydroxyheptenoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid salt thereof, and

(b) about 30% to about 99% by weight of a stabilizing effective amount of an amido-group containing polymeric compound or a stabilizing effective amount of an amino-group containing polymeric compound, or combination thereof; wherein said stabilized pharmaceutical composition does not contain a stabilizing effective amount of another stabilizer or a combination of other stabilizers.

27. The composition of claim 26, wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxy heptanoic acid salt is pravastatin sodium.

28. The composition of claim 26, wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxy heptanoic acid salt is pravastatin sodium and the amido-group containing polymeric compound is cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone.

29. The composition of claim 26, wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxy heptanoic acid salt is pravastatin sodium and the amido-group containing polymeric compound is polyvinylpyrrolidone.

30. The composition of claim 26, wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxy heptanoic acid salt is pravastatin sodium and the amino-group containing polymeric compound is cholestyramine.

31. The composition of claim 26, wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxy heptanoic acid is atorvastatin calcium.

32. The composition of claim 26, wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxy heptanoic acid salt is atorvastatin calcium and the amido-group containing polymeric compound is cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone.

33. The composition of claim 26, wherein the ring-opened 7-substituted 3,5-dihydroxy heptanoic acid salt is atorvastatin calcium and the amido-group containing polymeric compound is polyvinylpyrrolidone.

34. The composition of claim 26, in a solid tablet dosage form which further comprises a lubricant.

35. The composition of claim 34, wherein the lubricant is magnesium stearate.

36. A stabilized pharmaceutical composition comprising pravastatin sodium and about 40% or greater by weight of the composition of an amido-group or amino-group containing polymeric stabilizer.

37. A stabilized pharmaceutical composition comprising atorvastatin calcium and about 40% or greater by weight of the composition of an amido-group or amino-group containing polymeric stabilizer.

38. A method for the treatment of dyslipidemia, comprising the step of orally administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective unit dosage of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1.

39. A method for the treatment of dyslipidemia, comprising the step of orally administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective unit dosage of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 26.